

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1172

By Herron

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize Joshua Ryan Owens,
2004 Valedictorian of Obion County Central High
School.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to pay tribute to those students who through their natural talents and unflagging commitment to academic excellence have distinguished themselves in the classroom; and

WHEREAS, Joshua Owens is one such exceptional student who was recently named Valedictorian of the 2004 graduating class at Obion County Central High School; and

WHEREAS, through diligent study, steady composure during examinations, and steadfast commitment of time and talent, Mr. Owens has achieved outstanding academic success, and has joined the ranks of the best and brightest students in Tennessee and our country; and

WHEREAS, in his remarkable high school career, Mr. Owens has earned an exemplary 4.0 grade point average; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Owens' hard work and dedication to academic excellence has resulted in his recognition as a Top Ten Student; an Honor Marshall for Graduation; a Kiwanis Club Student of the Month; recipient of the Algebra I, French I, Pre-Calculus, French II, Honors English III, and Chemistry academic awards; selection as "Most Intelligent"; a United States Senate Youth Program State Finalist, a Coca-Cola Scholars Program Semi-Finalist, and an award winner at the University of Tennessee at Martin Foreign Language Competition; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his academic success, Mr. Owens has served as Senior Class Vice President, participated in numerous extracurricular activities, and has held membership in the Beta Club; National Honor Society; Foreign Language Club, serving as Class Representative and Vice President; the Christian Student Association, serving as Director of Programs and "One Night Worship" Organizer; Academic Decathlon Team, in which he received numerous awards; "See You at the Pole" planning committee Chairperson; Key Club;

Student Council; Annual Staff, serving as Manager; Writer's Club; SADD; "Character Counts" program, serving as a Spokesperson; and the Homecoming Dance and Talent Show Committee, serving as Treasurer and Talent Show Host; and

WHEREAS, an exemplary leader among his peers, Mr. Owens has participated in the Walk of Hope (Relay for Life), Youth Leadership Obion County, Student Advisory Board of First Citizens National Bank, American Legion Boys' State, National Young Leaders Conference, Operation Christmas Child, Chimes for Charity, 30-Hour Famine, Obion County Project Graduation, Reelfoot Rural Ministries Food Drive, and Obion County D.A.R.E., in addition to serving as a Student Aid in the Obion County Central High School Guidance Department and as a Student Representative for the Obion County Chamber of Commerce; and

WHEREAS, a devout Christian, Mr. Owens is a member of Calvary Baptist Church where he has served on the Student Mission Team, Youth Council, Drama Team, Youth Ensemble, G.R.O.W. Church Outreach program, Food Basket Packing and Delivery Team, in the Singing Hands Organization, and as a Vacation Bible School Teacher and Regional Church Youth Council Representative; he has also won numerous awards on the district and State level Speaker's Tournament; and

WHEREAS, the intellectual aptitude and ambition Mr. Owens displays surely bodes well for his future success; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Owens' noteworthy achievement is a tremendous source of pride for his parents, Robert Owens and Carol Owens, his school, and his community; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Owens' dedication to excellence is clearly deserving of the respect, admiration, and commendation of this legislative body; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby commend and honor 2004 Obion County Central High School Valedictorian, Joshua Ryan Owens, on his impressive academic achievement, and extend to him our best wishes for a happy, successful future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.